MINUTES OF MEETING OF COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C., JANUARY 16, 1925.

The fourth meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1925 was held in its office in the Interior Department Building, on Friday, January 16, 1925.

The following members were present:

Mr. Moore, Chairman,
Mr. Fraser,
Mr. Ayres,
Mr. Mowbray,
Mr. Medary,
Mr. Delano,
also Mr. H. P. Caemmerer, Secretary and Executive Officer.

Mr. Greenleaf was prevented from being present on account of illness.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: The minutes of the meeting held December 5 and 6, 1924, were approved.

2. APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL DISBURSING AGENT: The Secretary reported that in accordance with the Resolution adopted at the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts on December 5 and 6, 1924, as to the appointment of a deputy during the absence of the Secretary, Mr. Arthur A. Altschul has been appointed Special Disbursing Agent during the period from January 21 to April 15, 1925, inclusive, in conformity with Civil Service Regulations and Revised Statute 3614. (Exhibit A)

3. STATUE FOR PEACE PALACE AT THE HAGUE: Under date of January 5, 1925, a letter was received from the Department of State, advising that Mr. Andrew O'Connor has completed his statue for the Peace Palace, and requesting advice as to having a member of the Commission inspect the statue.

Mr. Moore said the State Department was informed that the matter would receive the attention of the Commission (Exhibit B) and that since then he also received a letter from Mr. O'Connor, with photographs, showing the statue in place, as follows:

London, Jan. 1, 1925.

"Dear Mr. Moore:

The architect of the Peace Palace has assured me that very shortly he will arrange a lighting for my statue and remove the two heavy gift chandeliers from the vicinity.

The photographs I enclose will give you but a faint idea of the general effect--for in the photographs the colored marbles appear black--the red carpet on the stairs shows black and the architecture nearest the camera is very much too big, for that in the distance, while the dim windows behind the statue are whiter than the marble although in reality they are dull in tone and with all that--the statue being distant from the camera, appears smaller than it really is.

In spite of these defects in the photographs, I send them along because I want you to know at once that the statue is in place and when seen impressive.

My last month of work was filled with intense anxiety--the severe and threatening contract and my agreement with the bonding company giving me no peace, but a few days within the time specified I got my work done and inasmuch as is humanly possible--to my satisfaction. The marble statue in place being more complete than the plaster model appeared, and in scale exactly right--in my opinion.

This is my best work and no effort nor expense has been spared and I'd be happy if you would get me a payment from the State Department which could be sent to me in Paris at the Embassy.

With best wishes for the New Year,

Sincerely yours,

Andrew O'Connor.

The question of making a trip to The Hague to inspect the statue was placed before Mr. Fraser, the sculptor member of the Commission, who said that he thought this unnecessary, as the photographs showed that Mr. O'Connor had made a good statue and his written report confirms it. Mr. Fraser said further that Mr. O'Connor had accomplished a very difficult task of making an appropriate statue for a location which has very bad lighting.

The Commission unanimously approved the statue, and the Department

of State was advised accordingly (Exhibit B-1).

4. NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART: Under date of January 14, 1925, the following letter was received from Dr. Charles D. Walcott, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, submitting plans for the National Gallery of Art:

> "I am sending you herewith copies of the preliminary sketches by Mr. Charles A. Platt, Architect, of New York, for a National Gallery of Art Building, to be located on the Mall within the Smithsonian Park.
>
> "These sketch plans are transmitted informally for the information of the Commission and for such informal suggestions as the Commission may care to make in regard to them. Complete drawings will not be prepared until funds are available for their preparation and for the erection of the building."

The Commission examined the plans and recognized the excellence of Mr. Platt's work. However, the Commission called attention to several important features which should be taken into consideration in connection with the plans, namely:

(a) The plans contemplate a large building, which would be built across Ninth Street as it is to cross the Mall, according to the Plan of the Senate Park Commission of 1901, and there is to be a "sub-cross-axis" of the Mall at this location;

(b) The Report of the Public Buildings Commission, 1917, provides for the erection of a Market along Pennsylvania Avenue, between Seventh and Ninth Streets.

(c) The Commission of Fine Arts were informed recently of a proposed new $5,000,000 National Museum of Engineering and Industry, to be erected on the Mall, adjacent to the Smithsonian Institution.

In the circumstances, the Commission recommended that a study be made of this part of the Mall and a ground plan prepared and submitted, showing present and proposed buildings of the Smithsonian Institution.

5. MCKINLEY MANUAL TRAINING SCHOOL: Mr. A. L. Harris, Municipal Architect, submitted further studies for the McKinley Manual Training School, which were inspected by the Commission and favorably considered. The Commission noted

in particular the improvement made in redesigning the main entrance to the building and the readjustment made in the location of the stadium. Mr. Harris said that no money to erect the school has been approved, but the preparation of the plans has been authorized, and he desired to complete those as far as possible.

6. DESIGN FOR TRUCK HOUSE: Mr. Harris submitted a design for a Truck House, to be erected at Florida Avenue and Orren Street, N.E. The Commission were pleased with the design and approved it. A feature of the interior arrangement is that instead of the old style dormitory, there will be a separate room for each fireman.

7. NATIONAL ARBORETUM: The Secretary reported that Bills (H.R.10278, introduced by Mr. Luce in the House of Representatives, and S.3563, introduced by Senator Pepper, in the United States Senate, this session of Congress) contemplate authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a National Arboretum; that the bills have been referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry of Congress and that hearings have been held before that Committee, which indicate that the Mt. Hamilton tract is desired for the Arboretum. Also, under date of January 7, 1924, an Act was approved (Public No.42, 68th Congress), with a view to providing a new site near the Capitol for the Botanic Garden, and thereby clear the space now occupied by such Garden, as follows:

> "RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, That the Joint Committee on the Library is hereby authorized and directed to investigate and report to Congress, with estimate of cost as to a new location for the conservatories of the United States Botanic Garden, south of the Mall, in the vicinity of the present location, and also as to a suitable landscape plan in connection therewith: PROVIDED, that in the preparation of such a report the committee is hereby authorized to procure advice and assistance from any existing governmental agency, including the services of engineers, surveyors, draftsmen, landscape architects, and other technical personnel in the executive departments and independent establishments of the Government.
>
> Sec. 2. For the purpose of this act the sum of $5,000 is hereby authorized to be appropriated from any available money or money that may become available in the Treasury of the United States.

8. FIRST DIVISION MEMORIAL: Under date of December 10, 1924, a letter was received from Lieut. Col. C. O. Sherrill, Officer in Charge of Public Buildings and Grounds, transmitting plans, and a copy of a letter from Mr. Cass Gilbert, Architect (Exhibit C), suggesting further treatment of the area surrounding the First Division Memorial.

The Commission gave the subject very careful consideration. The plan of a broad terrace treatment as proposed was not thought advisable, as it would be an obstruction to traffic and the approach to the park contemplated by the Plan of 1901. The Commission had given consideration to the recommendations of Mr. Greenleaf, suggesting, instead of a formal treatment, that the ground, especially south of the monument, be graded so as to give an upward sweep to the monument. However, upon further inspection of the grounds, the Commission felt that the plan suggested by Mr. Greenleaf would cause too great a disturbance to existing conditions in the area. The Commission felt that the grading proposed by Mr. Greenleaf, on a reduced scale, would be better.

Mr. Delano felt that "a shaft of this nature rising out of a greensward without some terrace as a pedestal would be a mistake" and said he would like to see the suggestion of Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Greenleaf adapted to the site.

The Commission recommended that a new plan be made, showing a gradual slope from the pavement of the monument, which would take into consideration the vista from E Street, and from the side streets, to the monument, and submitted for further consideration of the subject (Exhibit C-1).

9. TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER: Under date of January 13, 1925, Hon. Hamilton Fish, Jr., House of Representatives, submitted a letter asking advice of the Commission with reference to a Bill (H.R.11545), introduced

by him, pertaining to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington, as follows:

> "BE IT ENACTED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, That the expenditure of $5,000 is hereby authorized, under the direction of the Secretary of War, with the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts, to replace the granite with marble on the tomb of the unknown soldier in front of the Memorial Amphitheater in the Arlington Cemetery and to mark the tomb with a suitable inscription".

The Commission felt it unwise to replace the granite with marble, as it is less durable; also, $5,000 is an insufficient sum for the desired purpose. The Commission called attention to the fact that the tomb of the Unknown Soldier is an incomplete monument and that steps should be taken to complete it.

The Commission recommended that the bill provide that the Arlington Amphitheater Commission be allowed $5,000 to prepare plans and models for the completion of the tomb of the Unknown Soldier (Exhibit D).

10. WORLD WAR MEMORIALS IN EUROPE: Since the meeting on December 5th, the Commission had given further consideration to the question of World War Memorials in Europe, and in connection therewith considered a letter, dated December 10, 1924, from Mr. Medary, on the subject as follows:

Dear Mr. Moore:

> "I have been thinking of the battle monument problem since our meeting in Washington and with the arrival of the memorandum this morning I realize that you should make some recommendations at as early a date as possible. I am still of the opinion that probably four men should be recommended and that these should all be men whose work would have the distinction and thoroughbred quality which should ensure dignity and repose in these memorials.
>
> I believe one of these men should occupy the position of chairman of the group similar to the arrangement by which the various designs for the World's Fair by different architects were kept in harmony while maintaining the individual interest of the designer in each case.
>
> If such an arrangement were made it would be possible to name as the chairman one of the older men of the profession, while among the others might be included some of the younger men who have shown in their Paris Prize or Roman Prize work the character desired, with

the assurance that the chairman would be responsible for the whole and could prevent the possibility of experimental digressions by younger men. It would be quite reasonable however to name all of the men from the ranks of those whose performance is well known and long established.

Among these I would name as my personal choice and in the following order: Cret, Pope, Kendal (of McKim, Mead and White), Platt, Swartwout.

Among the possibilities in the younger group I would suggest: Faelton (Boston), Ellett (New York), Bottomley (New York), Fenhagen (Baltimore), George How (Philadelphia), and Sternfeld (Philadelphia).

I hope that the men from New York will be able to suggest names of younger men from a more personal knowledge of their work. A number whose names have occurred to me are employed in other offices and would not be available.

I Believe it very important that should such a program be adopted the architect acting as chairman, or if possible the whole group, should go to Europe and study the whole problem on the ground before crystallizing any preconceived ideas which may be in the minds of the Committee or in their own minds.

I had thought a sculptor or landscape man might be among the group but have concluded this would not be wise and that the association of sculptor and landscape man should be made by the appointed architects, if a sympathetic relationship is to be assured".

The suggestions of Mr. Medary were very favorably regarded by the Commission. Mr. Delano and Mr. Ayres felt there would be difficulty at this time in deciding upon a group of artists for the work. Mr. Greenleaf suggested including a landscape architect, saying--

"Most of these monuments are to be so associated with their surroundings that in my judgment a competent Landscapr Architect should very properly be one of the body of professionals suggested by Mr. Medary.------ I saw enough in the relation with Mr. Kendall in the designing of the cemeteries in Europe to realize this and to make me feel strongly that scarcely a monument will be devised in which the council of a competent landscape architect as one of the Board, not as a supernumerary, will not be important."

Mr. Fraser advised--

"In relation to the battle monuments in France, I think Mr. Medary's letter is particularly good, if all the monuments are to be pre-eminently architectural. On the other hand, if they are to be pre-eminently sculptural, I should say that the names of sculptors should be inserted in place of architects. Possibly it might be a wise thing to divide the names mentioned to include architects and sculptors, rather than architects entirely. It is

my opinion that a sculptor or two would be necessary on the list which is sent to France. Of course this entirely depends on the point of view from which the monuments are to be considered.

"I was much impressed by the Paul Cret designs for monuments. Something in that nature would be fine for each cemetery. Nevertheless, I would not want to see the sculptural point of view lost sight of."

Mr. Fraser submitted further suggestions on the subject by letter of December 26, 1924 (Exhibit E).

The Commission felt that the work was of such scope and importance that the advice of the best architects, sculptors and landscape architects would be necessary to produce the best results. However, before any plans are made the Commission felt it desirable to have someone appointed to take charge of the designing and supervise the construction, who would go to Europe and visit the places where memorials are to be erected. The Commission unanimously selected Mr. Paul Cret, architect, of Philadelphia, who is recognized as one of the great architects of the country and who served during the World War from beginning to its close, with the recommendation that the American Battle Monuments Commission appoint him for this work. He has been selected to design the World War Memorials for the State of Pennsylvania.

The Secretary reported that the Independent Offices Appropriation Bill for the Fiscal Year 1926, as introduced in the House of Representatives, contemplates an appropriation of $3,000,000 for World War Memorials in Europe, to be expended by the American Battle Monuments Commission, and that the Hearings on this Bill (page 256-257) suggest that this sum be used as follows:

Beautification of cemeteries, $1,000,000 for 8 chapels, and $246,000 for walls,				$1,200,000.
Commemorative memorials to American Expeditionary Forces,				
Montfaucon	$350,000	Historical monuments		
St.Mihiel	250,000	(12, at $30,000)	$360,000	
Chateau Thierry	200,000	Tablets (3,at $500)	1,500	
Nancy	100,000		$1,501,500	1,500,000
Tours	160,000			
Rome	80,000	Naval memorials		300,000
				$3,000,000

In considering the probable cost of chapels at the cemeteries the Commission felt that these would vary at each location. Mr. Moore said a large chapel should undoubtedly be erected at Romagne, because it is the largest cemetery; at Suresnes, much smaller, a finer chapel might be erected; at Belleau Wood a chapel would be such as would be favored by the Belleau Wood Memorial Association; at St. Mihiel, because of surroundings there would be little opportunity for embellishment; at Bony (the Somme), the members of the Commission who visited Europe when the plans were prepared, recommended rebuilding the local church and connecting it with the American cemetery.

Mr. Fraser said Paul Cret would be the L'Enfant who would visualize the scheme, and who would prepare the entire design and make preliminary sketches for the whole group, the details of which would be carried out by others to be associated with him later in the work.

The Commission recommended that Mr. Paul Cret be appointed by the American Battle Monuments Commission to take charge of the designing; that he be allowed to visit the places in Europe where the United States will erect these memorials; and that he prepare a report, to be submitted to the Commission, setting forth the type of monument and chapel he would erect at each place, together with estimated cost, and his recommendations pertaining to them.

11. BICENTENNIAL OF THE BIRTHDAY OF GEORGE WASHINGTON: The Secretary reported that by Act approved December 2, 1924, Congress has provided for the Bicentennial of the Birthday of George Washington, in 1932, which is to be a great celebration throughout this country, and by the terms of which matters pertaining to the fine arts are to be referred to this Commission of Fine Arts/

The Senate has appointed as members of the George Washington Bicentennial Commission, Messrs. Fess, Glass, Spencer, Bayard; and the House of Representatives, Messrs. Hawley, Tilson, Garner, of Texas and Byrnes, of Tennessee.

12. MUSIC AUDITORIUM: At the Library of Congress, the Commission inspected plans submitted in behalf of the Librarian of Congress by Mr. Carl Engel, Chief of the Music Division, for a music auditorium, to cost about $60,000, the gift of Mrs. Frederick Shurtleff Coolidge, of New York and Pittsfield, Mass. The plan submitted indicated that it was intended to build the structure diagonally in the northwest inner court yard of the library building.

The Commission, after inspecting the plans and the site, felt that for reasons of appearance, convenience and economy the building should be rectangular, using two walls of the library building adjacent to the Music Division.

13. MONUMENT FOR CHARLES FORT: Mr. Wm. Partridge, of the Office of Yards and Docks, Navy Department, submitted a tentative sketch for a memorial, for which an appropriation has been made by Congress, to commemorate Charles Fort, built in 1678, at Charleston, S.C. The Commission approved the sketch submitted, with suggestions as to minor changes.

14. AMERICAN UNIVERSITY: The Commission made a trip of inspection to the grounds of the American University, at Massachusetts and Nebraska Avenues, N.W., where on a tract of land comprising 62.5 acres, the University contemplates erecting a group of buildings. Col. P.M.Anderson, who made the plan, was present and explained details of it.

The Commission decided that the plan should be made the subject of restudy; that the buildings should be located in relation to the topography. Col. Anderson said such a plan would be made and submitted to the Commission.

15. NEW FILTRATION PLANT: Major J. A. O'Connor, Engineer Officer in Charge of Washington work, having requested that the Commission make a final inspection of the plans for the New Filtration Plant before they are submitted to the Chief of Engineers, the Commission designated Mr. Delano to make this inspection.

Mr. Delano inspected the plans and noted thereon that changes, decided upon at the December meeting of the Commission, which were pointed out by Major O'Connor, had been made. Major O'Connor called attention to the necessity of raising the roof of the room, at the rear of the tower, 17 feet in order to give ample space for necessary equipment in the building. Mr. Delano made certain suggestions to Major O'Connor in matters of detail, and otherwise regarded the plans satisfactory.

The Commission were the guests at luncheon of the Staff of the Librarian of Congress. The Commission adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

C O P Y

January 10, 1925.

Dear Sir:

You are hereby appointed Special Disbursing Agent for the Commission of Fine Arts during the period from January 21, 1925, to April 15, 1925, inclusive, at $150. a month. Your duties as such will include the general duties of the Secretary of the Commission, who will be away in Europe and the Mediterranean countries during that period.

It is understood that you will execute a bond in the sum of $5,000. with the approval of the Treasury Department.

Respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Arthur A. Altschul,

1872 California Street,

Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT A

C O P Y

January 7, 1925.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Your letter of January 5, enclosing a copy of a cablegram from the American Chargé d'Affaires ad interim at The Hague, concerning the statue for the Peace Palace at The Hague, has been received.

I would suggest that the wrappings be taken from the statue and that it be allowed to take its place among the other gifts of the Nations. At some appropriate time in the near future a simple ceremony of gift can be arranged. It is no longer the practice to keep statues muffled up pending dedication, and after the long delay of the United States in filling its place it would seem highly desirable not to have this space occupied by a veiled figure.

Certain payments were due the sculptor when the statue was in marble. Mr. O'Connor has sent photographs to the Commission of Fine Arts showing that the statue is in marble and therefore these payments may now be made to him. Advice as to the final payment will be arranged after the matter has been considered by the Commission.

It seems to be impossible to detach from that statue a phrase invented by Secretary of State Bryan. The statue itself complies with the Act of Congress. It is a work of American art. It needs no name and the fact that it has none enables every person who sees it to give it a name to satisfy himself. A parallel case is the Adams Memorial in Rock Creek cemetery, which represents as high a point as American sculpture has yet reached.

Very respectfully, yours,
Charles Moore,
Chairman.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State.

EXHIBIT B.

COPY

January 17, 1925.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

At their meeting on January 16, 1925, the Commission of Fine Arts considered the photographs submitted by Mr. Andrew O'Connor, sculptor (Care American Express Co., 11 Rue Scribe, Paris), showing his statue in place in the Peace Palace at The Hague. One of the photographs is enclosed.

The Commission is satisfied that Mr. O'Connor has created and placed in the location assigned to the United States, an American work of art that meets the requirements of law and is at the same time a work of distinct merit. For power, beauty, and appropriateness, the statue is a fine example of American sculpture. Moreover, it is evident that Mr. O'Connor has met the difficult and exacting requirements of lighting and location.

Mr. O'Connor undertook this work at a time when prices of materials, transportation and labor were comparatively low. He has cut the statue entirely with his own hands and has personally supervised its erection, at the same time adapting his creation to the conditions of the location.

In view of these circumstances, and the entire satisfaction of the Commission of Fine Arts, based on the photographs and the report submitted by Mr. O'Connor, the Commission unanimously recommend that the full sum appropriated by Congress, without deduction other than the expense incurred for an inspection trip to Paxton, be paid to Mr. O'Connor. Even so the statue will represent a cost to him greater than the price he will receive.

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State.

EXHIBIT B-1

COPY

October 27, 1924.

Lt. Col. C. O. Sherrill,
New Navy Building, 18th & B Streets,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Col. Sherrill: I enclose herewith a blueprint in duplicate marked "Study for Entourage, First Division Monument" dated October 23, 1924, showing the plan and elevation of what I would like to have done for the development of the grounds immediately adjacent to the First Division Monument to which I will refer later in this letter. Also a blueprint in duplicate showing the bare outline of the earth terrace which I would recommend being made at the present time.

The contours indicated are taken from the map furnished I believe by your office some time ago.

The tree indications are taken likewise from a drawing furnished by your office. Those that come withing the space to be filled will doubtless have to be removed and replanted.

The slope of the terrace is intended to be at the rate of one foot vertical to two horizontal. The main level of the top of the terrace would be at grade 39.

Referring to the drawing first above mentioned, I would say that the material and the extent to which it can be carried out would be dependent upon the funds available. For example, I have indicated two simple fountains, one near each end of the plot. These might have to be merely pools with simple low jets of water or be abandoned altogether. The paving which I have indicated to be of granite might have to be of brick or in some cases of gravel.

I have no indication of the amount of money that may be available. I have therefore indicated what seems to me to be the proper material to use with a view to modifying it if the funds are not sufficient. In short, my idea is that the terrace should be surrounded by a privet hedge of about three or four feet high. That there should be low box hedges of about one foot in height on each side of the paths and that the main center area of the terrace should be simply a grass plot with no planting or paving. The steps from the terrace down to the level of the park should be of granite and should be very broad, low steps.

I assume that the official course would require that the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts should be obtained before the design is executed. I have endeavored informally to obtain an expression of opinion from the Commission and though various suggestions were made by individual members of the Commission, no definite action was taken. It was stated that the matter would have to come before them through you or through official channels.

I assure that if the simple earth terrace were installed that it could be easily modified or adapted to any final design that you might determine in connection with, or on the advice of, the Commission of Fine Arts. I would therefore respectfully recommend that the earth terrace should now be placed in accordance with the blueprint thereof herewith enclosed and that it be sodded so as to be presentable and while the further embellishment of the location should be put forward as promptly as possible the earth terrace alone for the time would look well.

Col. Adolphe Huguet, Chairman of the Committee of the First Division Memorial Association, is willing to bear the expense thereof (i.e. of the earth terracing), if funds are not available from other sources. May I inquire whether you approve of going ahead with the terrace and whether you could undertake it as part of the park development, or wish the First Division Memorial Association to proceed with it?

I should be very glad to cooperate with you to the end that this property be put in a thoroughly satisfactory condition.

I remain,

Very truly yours,

Cass Gilbert,

Architect.

EXHIBIT C.

COPY

January 19, 1925.

Dear Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on January 16, 1925, gave consideration to the plan made by Mr. Cass Gilbert, which you submitted for advice by letter of December 10, 1924, of a suggested treatment for the surroundings of the First Division Memorial.

In the Plan of 1901 the area between the State, War and Navy building and B Street was planned as a series of continuous shaded walks from the hot city to the park area. Through the center of these shaded walks runs a broad, open stretch of green grass. When the approval of the Commission of Fine Arts was given to the location of the First Division Memorial on its present site, it was given with the understanding that the monument would afford a fitting terminus of the vista looking north from B Street. It is essential to this plan that the entrance to these walks bordering Seventeenth Street be kept free and unencumbered. Such a terrace as is proposed in the plan submitted would block the entrance to these paths and to a considerable extent would defeat the general plan for the treatment of these grounds. This Commission therefore advise:

1. That the minor shrubbery underneath the trees be transplanted and that the westerly area under the trees be treated as space for walking ; also that the same treatment be applied to the easterly side in so far as the presence of the Ellipse roadway will permit. When this is done the purpose of the tree-planting that has already been done will become apparent.

2. For the treatment of the area about the First Division Memorial, the Commission recommend that a new study be made, which will take into consideration the side streets as well as the vista looking from E Street north to the monument. A simple graded slope from the existing pavement of the monument, which will gradually fade off into the natural surface, is preferable to the terrace treatment and doubtless would cost less. A sketch suggesting this is enclosed. Steps might lead from the south side of the monument if thought desirable. A certain number of the trees would of course have to be raised to conform to the raised grades.

The plans are herewith returned.

Very respectfully,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. C. O. Sherrill,

Officer in Charge of

Public Buildings and Grounds.

EXHIBIT C.-1

COPY

January 19, 1925.

Dear Mr. Fish:

At their meeting on January 16, 1925, the Commission of Fine Arts considered the Bill (H.R.11545), which you submitted with your letter of January 13th, "authorizing the Secretary of War to replace the granite with marble on the tomb of the unknown soldier in front of the Memorial Amphitheater in the Arlington Cemetery".

The Commission call your attention to the fact that the tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington is the base for a monument to be designed in the future. By no possibility can it be made into an adequate monument in itself. The treatment we have accorded--or failed to accord--to this monument is in striking contrast to the honor and dignity with which the Unknown Soldier has been treated in other countries.

The Commission recommend, therefore, that the Bill provide that the Arlington Memorial Amphitheater Commission (composed of the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy--Public No.397, 66th Congress, approved March 4, 1921) be authorized and directed to prepare plans and models for the completion of the tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington, and that $5,000 be appropriated for such purpose.

Very respectfully yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Hon. Hamilton Fish, Jr.,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT D

COPY

New York, N. Y.,
December 26, 1924.

My dear Mr. Moore:

An idea exists that statues or compositions of soldiers should not be made as war memorials for the Great War. And the example is cited of the soldiers' statues done after the Civil War. The proposition is that we must make monuments of an ideal nature, instead of the soldier. I do not object to the ideal in the least, but I would like to say that any influence against the soldier as a monument is not founded on careful consideration of the facts.

For instance, where is there an ideal monument which was made for the soldiers of 1863 that equals, or has as much meaning, as the Farragut, the Shaw, or the Cass monument? Or, at a later period, a much better statue than O'Connor's Lawton? Then again, the soldier of the Civil War was clothed in an unsculptural uniform, whereas the soldier of 1917 had a uniform of sculptural possibilities. It would be a mistake to insist on a sculptor's making an ideal monument whose forte was the realistic, and it would be equally unwise to suggest the making of a soldier by a sculptor who could not comprehend the possibilities.

In my opinion, monuments can be done realistically, or from the ideal standpoint; but, with all things considered, the most successful ones have been done with the soldier as the main motive.

Very sincerely yours,

J. E. Fraser.

Mr. Charles Moore,
Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT E.